

# Inns of Charleston has become 'pet friendly'

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Active duty military and all eligible patrons who own pets will now have a place to stay on base during a PCS move.

The Inns of Charleston has dedicated four Transient Living Facilities in Hunley Park as "pet friendly."

The pet program is being tested as part of the Year of the Family 2000 initia-



tives. "We have had many requests for pets to stay in on base facilities," said Joe Abell, Inns of Charleston manager. "We toyed with the idea of opening some kennels, but this would have only helped families with dogs. Now we will be able to house dogs, cats, birds, snakes or anything else."

The facilities, located at the end of Alaska Drive near an open field, will be available on a first-come, first served basis. People with pets will be given priority in those four designated units, but everyone will be allowed to use the facilities.

"The goal of the program is to provide suitable lodging for traveling families while lessening the financial and personal burden of finding homes for family pets," said Nancy Corbin, deputy chief of Services. "We are hoping

to add to the quality of life by allowing families to keep themselves all together, including their favorite pet."

As with any new program, there are several new rules pet owners must follow. Guests will be expected to participate in a pre and exit inspection with staff members to determine the amount of damage, if any.

"We are taking measures to minimize the amount of damage that may occur in our facilities," Abell said. "Damage fees will be charged to the guest to make up for extra labor or furniture replacement costs."

Other changes include no housekeeping service when pets are visiting. This will protect the staff and keep family pets safely enclosed in the unit, Abell said. Towel service can be prearranged.



The duration of this program will depend on how guests behave.

"We need the cooperation of our guests to make this program a success," Abell stated. "We ask that guests respect other residents, keep pets leashed when outside, and that they do not leave pets

unattended in the unit."

Guests will be responsible to clean up after their animals and maintain the lodging quarters.

"We are excited to offer this program," Corbin said. "We would like the program to be a success and hope to open more units in the future."

## Reminder:

**Pet owners who have an upcoming PCS are encouraged to call and reserve a "pet friendly" unit soon - they will not last long.**

**For lodging reservations or information call 963-3806 or 552-9900.**